

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 DRC-01 /114 W
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R 181832Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6566

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS LONDON 14911

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, UK

SUBJECT: NEW IRA BOMBING IN LONDON

1. RECENT POLICE WARNINGS OF THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER IRA BOMBINGS APPEARED TO HAVE BECOME A REALITY TODAY WHEN A CAR BOMB EXPLODED OUTSIDE A HOME OFFICE BUILDING IN WESTMINSTER, AT 0855. THIS INCIDENT FOLLOWED TWO OTHERS ON DECEMBER 17 WHEN AN EMPLOYEE OF THE BRITISH HOME STORES DISCOVERED A LETTER BOMB AND ANOTHER LETTER BOMB INJURED A BRIGADIER AND AIDE-DE-CAMP TO THE QUEEN IN HIS FLAT IN KNIGHTSBRIDGE. THE CAR BOMB WHICH INJURED 52 PEOPLE, CAME APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES AFTER A TELEPHONED WARNING WAS RECEIVED AT THE DAILY EXPRESS FROM A WOMAN WITH AN IRISH ACCENT.

2. ALTHOUGH THE LETTER BOMBS AND CAR BLAST SEEM TO HAVE CAUGHT PROVISIONAL SYMPATHIZERS BY SURPRISE, IT IS WIDELY ASSUMED HERE THAT THEY WERE THE WORK OF THE IRA WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN KEEN TO SHOW ITS STRENGTH AFTER THE HEAVY SENTENCES RECENTLY IMPOSED ON IRA BOMBERS IN WINCHESTER.

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Disposition Event:
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30 JUN 2005

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